

to increase employee morale and, for the last few years, was particularly focused on improving employee engagement with senior leaders. His steadfast dedication to this effort, along with those of Secretary Jeh Johnson, resulted in rising employee satisfaction at DHS this past year. Ali's commitment to making the Department a more unified entity is yet another example of his extraordinary ability to mobilize, manage, and lead people with integrity and selflessness.

Ali's achievements are not limited to domestic operations. As the highest ranking Cuban American in the Obama administration, Ali secured the first homeland security agreement with the Government of Cuba, allowing increased trade, sea and air travel, and tourism between the two nations. His work to facilitate international trade, redesign the Nation's refugee admissions process, and enhance the Visa Waiver Program has resulted in many successful international partnerships.

In order to ensure our Nation's protection in cyber security, Ali has worked closely with international leaders to promote cyber security research and innovation, which has ultimately created a more reliable and effective cyber space at home and abroad. For instance, Ali led delegations in negotiating a cyber security partnership with the State of Israel, as well as the Department's negotiation of a cyber security agreement with China. These efforts and others have been fundamental to the protection of our Nation's cyber community.

Under his leadership, the Department's key counterterrorism efforts have been significantly strengthened. Ali improved national security vetting protocols, enhanced aviation and border security, and distributed counterterrorism intelligence to State, local, and tribal law enforcement. This collaboration has enhanced the Federal Government's national security partnership with first responders and has allowed for a more reliable and fruitful system.

During a time filled with constant threats and endangerments, Ali has continually proven to be a vital leader of DHS operations, ultimately ensuring that our Nation is a safe and secure place. I wish Ali, his wife, Tanya, and their family all the best in this next chapter in their lives. I sincerely thank him for his invaluable service to the Department and to our Nation.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SALINE, MICHIGAN

• Mr. PETERS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the 150th anniversary of the city of Saline, MI, which was incorporated as a village in 1866. I appreciate the opportunity to celebrate the history of this wonderful community, which has been consistently ranked as

one of the best places to live in the United States.

Before Europeans first settled the area, Native Americans frequently canoed from Lake Erie or traveled over six different trails to hunt in the area and harvest salt, which they used domestically and for trade. In fact, it was the discovery of this important mineral that inspired French voyageurs to name the local river Saline after the French word for "salt". Following the War of 1812, the U.S. Government recognized the need for a military road connecting Detroit and Chicago and hired Mr. Orange Risdon to survey the new route, which would eventually be known as U.S. 12 or Michigan Avenue. Risdon, enchanted by the land around Saline, decided to settle in the area.

Risdon purchased 164 acres from the U.S. Government on April 5, 1825, built a house, and began promoting the area to English and German settlers from New England and New York, as well as a small number of African-American families. The families that joined Risdon agreed to name their new community Saline, which was platted as an unincorporated village in 1832 and became an incorporated village in 1866 after consolidating with the neighboring settlement of Barnegat in 1848.

As an important stop for stagecoaches traveling between Detroit and Chicago, Saline attracted a number of artisan workshops and mills to complement its local agricultural industry. A desire for an affordable and reliable way to transport crops to market inspired farmers and merchants in Saline to raise funds for a railroad line connecting the community with Hillsdale and Ypsilanti, which opened for service on July 4, 1870. The railroad served Saline for nearly 100 years, transporting apples, wool, lumber and livestock, as well as finished goods sold in local stores. By 1875, Saline was the principal agricultural shipping point in southeast Michigan, with 700 residents who enjoyed a 3-story school building, 4 churches, 3 flouring-mills, 2 tanneries, a foundry, 2 hotels, several stores, a newspaper, and daily mail.

Saline continued to grow over the 20th century, even during the Great Depression. The Old Union School was demolished in 1930 and replaced by an Art Deco building that continued to serve as the community's school. In 1932, Saline Valley Farms was established. This farming cooperative consisted of 1,000 acres and attracted struggling families during the Great Depression. Over 100 people lived on the farm with their families, working cooperatively in the farm's dairy, orchards, poultry house, and gardens. The farm's success encouraged members to sell goods to the public with a storefront, as well as delivery vans that brought fresh produce and canned goods to Detroit and its suburbs. Many of the farm's families were attracted from outside Saline but continued to live in the area even after the venture closed in the 1950s.

During World War II, many of Saline's young men and women went to work at the Ford Assembly Plant at Willow Run, which famously produced almost half of all the B-24 Liberator heavy bombers used during the war. In the decades since, Saline has continued to be a thriving community known for its open rural vistas and small town atmosphere. It has also continued to be an important driver of economic growth and innovation as home to a variety of major technical centers and manufacturing sites. Its nearly 10,000 residents enjoy well-maintained historic homes, a district library, a hospital, parks, recreation, art, and a museum. It has held true to the words expressed by Orange Risdon in 1840, when he wished that Saline would continue to "shine in light, knowledge and liberty with the same increasing brilliance that she has shown from infancy to present time." I am proud to represent Saline in the U.S. Senate, and I wish the community many more years of success.●

TRIBUTE TO JAY GRINNEY

• Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. President, today I would like to take the opportunity to recognize Mr. Jay Grinney, the president and chief executive officer of HealthSouth Corporation. Mr. Grinney will be retiring from his position at the end of 2016, and his tenure at HealthSouth has been marked with success and expansion for the company.

Jay Grinney earned his bachelor's degree from St. Olaf College and received a masters of business administration and a masters of health care administration from Washington University. He served as senior vice president at the Methodist hospital system in Houston, the primary teaching affiliate for the Baylor College of Medicine, then went on to become president of the Eastern Group at Hospital Corporation of America, the Nation's largest health care company.

Jay Grinney has been with HealthSouth for over 20 years and served as president and CEO since 2004. Throughout his career, he has maintained a strong work ethic and exercised excellent management of every organization he has led.

Mr. Grinney's leadership at HealthSouth Corporation in particular cannot be underappreciated. HealthSouth is one of the Nation's largest providers of postacute health care services, offering both facility-based and home-based postacute services in 33 States and Puerto Rico through its inpatient rehabilitation clinics. Mr. Grinney became CEO at a critical time in HealthSouth's history and engineered the company's turnaround and repositioning as one of the Nation's leading providers of postacute services. He has overseen the diversification of the company and ensured its financial stability and future. He led the HealthSouth acquisition of Encompass Home Health and Hospice, Reliant Hospital Partners, and